



August 19, 2008

[Photos of the week](#): Sun/heat damage in Marionberries and raspberries.

[Small Fruit Cold Storage Report](#)

[Upcoming Meetings](#) (a calendar of small fruit related events)

[The Weather Cafe](#) by Rufus La Lone

Crop Reports

Blueberries

- **British Columbia:** (8/16) Not too many Duke and Reka are left. Bluecrop is still slow to ripen despite the heat, likely a record late harvest. Size has been good so far in most regions. Bluecrop still looks like a very light crop.
- **Northern Washington, Lynden:** (8/19) Rain has slowed down the harvest some. Dukes are almost done. Reka's have started. Still haven't hit the peak of harvest. Bluecrop, Bluejays and Jersey haven't started yet.
- **Oregon/SW Washington:** (8/19) Definitely on the downswing as far as quantities coming in. Harvest is slowing. We're hitting some of the windows where the fruit should have been if we'd had good pollination. Weather hasn't helped. From 100 degrees and windy on Friday to 65 and rain today. Elliotts, Bluejays, Jerseys coming in.

Blackberries

- **Oregon:** (8/19) A week of extremes. We went from three days of over 100 degrees to rain and in the 60's. Good thing the major harvests are done. Evergreens have started hand picking with some mold showing up. First machine evergreens also started today but most won't start until this weekend at the earliest. Chesters also picking.

Raspberries

- **British Columbia:** (8/16) Harvest is finished with yields below average. Still a lot of mite problems with the primocanes affected and floricanes shutting down early.
- **Northern Washington, Lynden:** (8/16) Harvest is on its last legs. Tonnage has been all over the place depending on field. Lots of aphids!

Industry News

- **Mobile freezer helps Vermont farmers preserve crop on farms:** [Click here](#) for this *Associated Press* story about Vermont berry growers using a mobile quick freeze trailer on farm.

Regional Updates

- **B.C. Blueberry Council IPM newsletter for August 13:** [Click here.](#)
- **Michigan Blueberry IPM Newsletter for August 19:** [Click here.](#) (Last one of the year)
- **Michigan State Fruit Crop Alert for August 19:** [Click here.](#)
- **New Jersey Blueberry Bulletin for August 11:** [Click here](#) and then click on August 11.

New Pest Information

Alert: [Botrytis Fruit Mold](#), late ripening blackberries: With the present rain, we've got our first threat of the season for economic losses due to fruit mold. Keep on top of fungicides as well as getting ripe fruit out of the field as quickly as possible.

Alert: [Blackberry rust](#), evergreen blackberries: The last couple of days have seen long periods of leaf wetness in the fields. Conditions are perfect for increased infections of blackberry rust. While these new infections won't have visible symptoms for a couple of weeks, late season fungicide applications could be needed at that time. Monitor closely.

On-going Pest Information

Birds, blueberries

Insects

- **[Blueberry Gall Midge](#), blueberries.**
- **[Aphids](#), blueberries**

- [Aphids](#), northern raspberries:
- [Yellow mites](#), northern raspberries.
- Twospotted Mites, [Raspberries](#).
- [Orange Tortrix leafrollers](#), southern caneberries.
- [Weevils](#), strawberries, blueberries: For more weevil information, click on these links: [rough strawberry root weevil](#), [black vine root weevils](#), [strawberry root weevils](#).

Diseases

- [Cane Blight](#), raspberries: Right after harvest is the time to protect the open catcher plate wounds from cane blight infections with a fungicide application.
- [Redberry Mites](#), late ripening blackberries.
- [Mummyberry](#), blueberries.
- Other blueberry fungal diseases: [Alternaria Fruit Rot](#), [Anthracnose Ripe Rot](#), [Botrytis](#).
- Blueberry virus diseases: [Shock Virus](#), [Scorch Virus](#).
- Other raspberry and blackberry fungal diseases: [Yellow Rust](#), [Cane and Leaf Rust](#), [Phytophthora Root Rot](#), [Purple Blotch](#).
- Raspberry and blackberry virus diseases: Raspberry Bushy Dwarf virus, [Raspberries](#), [Marionberries](#).

Tissue analysis & soil testing

Post harvest is the best time to do most soil and leaf testing for nutrient management planning.

- **Blueberries:** Tissue testing and pH monitoring are most critical. Complete soil tests don't correlate as well with plant needs as tissue tests. [Click here](#) to view OSU's Blueberry Nutrient (and testing) Guidelines.
- **Caneberries:** While annual soil testing has been the industry norm, Oregon State's recently updated nutritional guide recommends annual leaf testing with soil tests done just every few years. [Click here](#) to view OSU's Caneberry Nutrient (and testing) Guidelines.

Cropwork

Caneberries and blueberries: Nutrient testing is recommended immediately post-harvest. (See above)

All crops

- Pay attention to new plantings of all berries for weeds, water, insects, diseases and nutrient deficiencies.
- Weed control.
- Maintain adequate soil moisture.

Blueberries—Harvest ongoing.

- Bird damage management.
- Scout for fruit disease problems (e.g. Mummyberry, Botrytis, Alternaria, Anthracnose) & determine cause.
- Scout for leafrollers and treat as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Scout for aphids.
- Scout for weevil notching.

Blackberries—Harvest ongoing in the south.

- Scout for potential crop contaminants. Treat as needed.
- Scout for rust and treat as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Can treat for fruit mold if needed.
- Scout for redberry mite damage.
- Scout for fruit disorders (e.g. crumbly fruit, dry cell) and determine cause

Raspberries—Harvest finishing up.

- Can treat for cane blight prevention in machine picked fields right after harvest.
- Scout for potential crop contaminants. Treat as needed.
- Scout for fruit disorders (e.g. crumbly fruit, dry cell) and determine cause.
- Scout for mites and treat as needed.
- Scout for virus symptoms/send in sample for testing to confirm.
- Can treat for fruit mold if needed.
- Scout for aphids and treat as needed.

Strawberries—Processed harvest finished.

- Check weak areas for root weevil larvae, strawberry crown borers and/or root disease problems.
- Watch for weevil notching and plan for weevil management as needed.